

SCRUTINY REVIEW PANEL – SCOPING TEMPLATE

REVIEW TOPIC	Review of the Council's 95% Bus Coverage Policy
LEAD SCRUTINY MEMBER	<i>A Deputy Commissioner to be nominated to chair the Panel.</i> <i>(NOTE: It would be useful to have 1 member from each of the 7 districts represented on the Panel.)</i>
OFFICER SUPPORT	Environment and Transport officers.
RATIONALE	Arising from debate of the Local Transport Plan 3, it became clear that the Council's commitment to delivering a network of Monday to Saturday daytime bus services operating to an hourly or better timetable within 800m of 95% of County residents was no longer affordable.
PURPOSE OF REVIEW /OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider the purpose of the bus network – including what is currently provided, at what cost and how it is used; To consider how the "95% Policy" might be adapted in order to provide a sustainable and affordable bus network that is fit for purpose and to consider what the implications are of this policy revision for Leicestershire residents.
TIMESCALE	July – November 2011
METHODOLGY/ APPROACH	<p>The review will commence with a general and open discussion around the purpose of the bus network.</p> <p>It is then planned to look in detail at the current bus network, how it is provided and how much it currently costs the Authority. This will be provided in the form of presentations and briefings from the Assistant Director of Environment and Transport.</p> <p>Arising from the information provided, the Panel will aim to formulate options for a revised policy that is fit for purpose and affordable which is to be considered by the Cabinet.</p>
OUTCOMES	To advise the Scrutiny Commission and Cabinet on options for the future of the bus network.

CONSULTATION/ COMMUNICATIONS	The Panel will consult with, amongst others, bus user groups and bus service operators.
PUBLICITY	The outcome of the review will be published. As below, further publicity of the review may be sensitive issue, depending on outcomes.
RISKS AND BARRIERS	There are significant political, financial and social implications for this review. Equality Impact Assessments will need to be carried out arising from changes made to the policy. There is a risk that the review may cause difficulties with the Council's relationships with bus service operators.
NOMINATED LEAD OFFICER FOR THE REVIEW	Ian Drummond, Assistant Director of Environment and Transport (Transportation) Tel: 0116 305 5990 Email: ian.drummond@leics.gov.uk

Signed by the Scrutiny Commissioners:

Mr. S. J. Galton CC.....Date.....

Mr. A. M. Kershaw CC.....Date.....

Dr. R. K. A. Feltham CC.....Date.....

DRAFT PROJECT PLAN
(JULY – OCTOBER 2011)

Meeting 1 (early July) Possible all day meeting, if necessary

Exploration of “the bus network” and its purpose.	Ian Drummond to advise
Presentation on the Council’s current bus network: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is provided;• How it is used; and• At what cost.	Ian Drummond to advise
Discussion around the Council’s current “95% Policy” within the context of significantly reduced funding in the LTP3.	Ian Drummond to advise
Panel to identify key stakeholders (if any) from whom to request written submissions on current service and suggested policy approach moving forwards.	Panel

Meeting 2 and 3 (early September and early October)

Panel to consider any written submissions and explore policy options for the future of the bus network.	Ian Drummond to advise
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Meeting 3 (November)

Panel to agree final report and options to be presented to the Commission and Cabinet.	Ian Drummond to advise
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To be considered by the Scrutiny Commission in December
To be considered by the Cabinet in January 2011